

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Tennessee

National Wildlife Refuge Bird List



The Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge, administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is located in northwestern Tennessee, along beautiful Kentucky Lake. Its 50,000 acres of wetlands, woodlands and agricultural fields provide foraging, nesting and resting habitat for a myriad of birds. Established in 1945 for migratory birds, the wetlands and agricultural fields are managed for wintering waterfowl, while benefiting wading birds and shorebirds. An aggressive forest management program is underway to improve habitat for forest-dwelling migratory birds, including nesting and migrant wood warblers and thrushes.

*Tennessee
National
Wildlife
Refuge*



*This blue goose,
designed by
J. N. "Ding"
Darling, has
become a symbol
of the National
Wildlife
Refuge
System.*

*How to use your
checklist:*

*Seasonal
appearance:*

*Seasonal
abundance:*

*cover photo:
Steve Maslowski*

photo: USFWS

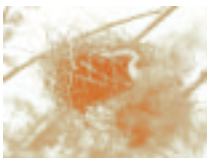


photo: Clayton Ferrell



The refuge headquarters office is located just northeast of Paris, Tennessee off of Highway 79. The Duck River Unit, the largest of the three units, is located in Humphreys and Benton Counties at the junction of the Duck and Tennessee Rivers. The sub-headquarters of this unit is located one and one-half miles southeast of Hustburg, Tennessee. The Big Sandy Unit is located 12 miles north of the town of Big Sandy and is at the junction of the Big Sandy and the Tennessee Rivers. The Busseltown Unit is located in Decatur County along the western bank of the Tennessee River, the entrance to the unit being 5 miles northeast of Parsons, Tennessee.

The bird checklist was designed to be informative and simple to use. The list is arranged in the order established by the American Ornithological Union. Symbols which appear in this checklist represent the following:

Sp - Spring, March-May
S - Summer, June-July
F - Fall, August-November
W - Winter, December-February

a - abundant (a common species which is very numerous)

c - common (certain to be seen in suitable habitat)

u - uncommon (present but not certain to be seen)

o - occasional (seen only a few times during a season)

r - rare (seen only once or twice a year; some years not at all)

x - accidental (has been observed on refuge less than three times in a specified season)

* - known or suspected to nest on refuge

This checklist includes 291 species of birds and is based on observations by refuge personnel and visiting ornithologists and birders. If you should find an unlisted, rare or accidental species, please let us know at Refuge Headquarters. We appreciate your help in updating our records.

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
Loons				
_____ Red-throated Loon	o		o	o
_____ Pacific Loon	o		o	o
_____ Common Loon	u		c	u
Grebes				
_____ Pied-billed Grebe	c	r	c	c
_____ Horned Grebe	u		c	u
_____ Red-necked Grebe			r	r
_____ Eared Grebe	r		r	r
Pelicans				
_____ American White Pelican	r		r	r
Cormorants				
_____ Double-crested Cormorant*	c	c	a	a
Bitterns and Herons				
_____ American Bittern	u		u	
_____ Least Bittern	o	o	o	
_____ Great Blue Heron*	a	a	a	c
_____ Great Egret	c	c	c	o
_____ Snowy Egret	r	o	r	
_____ Little Blue Heron	u	u	u	
_____ Tricolored Heron		x	x	
_____ Cattle Egret	o	o	o	
_____ Green Heron*	c	c	c	
_____ Black-crowned Night Heron	u	u	u	r
_____ Yellow-crowned Night Heron	u	u	u	
Ibises				
_____ White Ibis		r	r	
Storks				
_____ Wood Stork		x	x	
Vultures				
_____ Black Vulture*	c	c	c	c
_____ Turkey Vulture*	c	c	c	c

		<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
Waterfowl					
_____	Greater White-fronted Goose	u		u	u
_____	Snow Goose	o		u	u
_____	Ross's Goose	o		o	o
_____	Canada Goose*	c	c	a	a
_____	Tundra Swan			o	o
_____	Wood Duck*	c	c	c	u
_____	Gadwall	u		a	a
_____	American Wigeon	u		c	c
_____	American Black Duck	c	x	c	c
_____	Mallard*	c	u	a	a
_____	Blue-winged Teal	c	o	c	r
_____	Northern Shoveler	u		u	u
_____	Northern Pintail	c	x	c	c
_____	Green-winged Teal	c	x	c	c
_____	Canvasback	u		u	c
_____	Redhead	u		u	u
_____	Ring-necked Duck	u		c	c
_____	Greater Scaup	o		u	u
_____	Lesser Scaup	u		u	c
_____	Surf Scoter	o		o	r
_____	White-winged Scoter	r		r	r
_____	Black Scoter			r	r
_____	Oldsquaw	r		r	r
_____	Bufflehead	u		u	c
_____	Common Goldeneye	u		u	u
_____	Hooded Merganser*	u	u	c	c
_____	Common Merganser	r		o	o
_____	Red-breasted Merganser	o		u	u
_____	Ruddy Duck	u		c	c
Hawks and Allies					
_____	Osprey*	u	c	u	
_____	Bald Eagle*	u	u	u	c
_____	Northern Harrier	c	x	c	c
_____	Sharp-shinned Hawk	u	r	u	u
_____	Cooper's Hawk*	u	o	u	u
_____	Red-shouldered Hawk*	u	u	u	u
_____	Broad-winged Hawk*	u	o	u	
_____	Red-tailed Hawk*	c	c	c	c
_____	Rough-legged Hawk				r
_____	Golden Eagle	r		o	u
_____	American Kestrel*	u	o	u	u
_____	Merlin	r		r	r
_____	Peregrine Falcon	r		o	r
Turkey and Quail					
_____	Wild Turkey*	u	u	u	u
_____	Northern Bobwhite*	u	u	u	u

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
Rails, Gallinules and Coots				
_____ Yellow Rail			r	
_____ King Rail	r	r	r	
_____ Virginia Rail	o		o	
_____ Sora	u		u	
_____ Common Moorhen	r	r	r	
_____ American Coot	c	r	a	c
Cranes				
_____ Sandhill Crane			u	o
Shorebirds				
_____ Black-bellied Plover	r		o	
_____ American Golden-Plover	o		r	
_____ Semipalmated Plover	u		u	
_____ Piping Plover			r	
_____ Killdeer*	c	c	c	c
_____ Black-necked Stilt	x	x	x	
_____ American Avocet	x		r	
_____ Greater Yellowlegs	c		c	r
_____ Lesser Yellowlegs	c		c	x
_____ Solitary Sandpiper	c		c	
_____ Willet	r		r	
_____ Spotted Sandpiper	u	r	u	
_____ Upland Sandpiper	r		r	
_____ Marbled Godwit	x		r	
_____ Ruddy Turnstone	x		r	
_____ Red Knot			r	
_____ Sanderling			o	x
_____ Semipalmated Sandpiper	c		c	
_____ Western Sandpiper	o		u	
_____ Least Sandpiper	c		c	r
_____ White-rumped Sandpiper	o		r	
_____ Baird's Sandpiper	r		o	
_____ Pectoral Sandpiper	c		c	
_____ Dunlin	o		o	o
_____ Stilt Sandpiper	o		u	
_____ Buff-breasted Sandpiper			r	
_____ Short-billed Dowitcher	u		u	
_____ Long-billed Dowitcher	r		o	
_____ Common Snipe	c		c	u
_____ American Woodcock*	u	o	o	o
_____ Wilson's Phalarope	o		o	
_____ Red-necked Phalarope	x		r	
Gulls and Terns				
_____ Laughing Gull	r		r	r
_____ Franklin's Gull	r		r	r
_____ Bonaparte's Gull	u		u	u
_____ Ring-billed Gull	a	r	a	a
_____ Herring Gull	u		u	c
_____ Lesser Black-backed Gull			r	r

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
_____ Great Black-backed Gull			r	r
_____ Caspian Tern	u	u	u	
_____ Common Tern	o	o	o	
_____ Forster's Tern	o	r	o	x
_____ Least Tern	r	r	r	
_____ Black Tern	o	r	u	
Pigeons and Doves				
_____ Rock Dove*	o	o	o	o
_____ Mourning Dove*	c	c	a	c
Cuckoos				
_____ Black-billed Cuckoo	r	r	r	
_____ Yellow-billed Cuckoo*	c	c	c	
Owls				
_____ Barn Owl	r	r	r	r
_____ Eastern Screech Owl*	c	c	c	c
_____ Great Horned Owl*	u	u	u	u
_____ Barred Owl*	c	c	c	c
_____ Long-eared Owl	r		r	r
_____ Short-eared Owl	r		r	o
Nightjars				
_____ Common Nighthawk*	u	o	u	
_____ Chuck-will's-widow*	u	u	u	
_____ Whip-poor-will*	u	u	u	
Swifts				
_____ Chimney Swift*	u	u	u	
Hummingbirds				
_____ Ruby-throated Hummingbird*	c	c	c	
Kingfishers				
_____ Belted Kingfisher*	u	u	u	u
Woodpeckers				
_____ Red-headed Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
_____ Red-bellied Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
_____ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	u		u	u
_____ Downy Woodpecker*	c	c	c	c
_____ Hairy Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
_____ Northern Flicker*	c	c	c	c
_____ Pileated Woodpecker*	u	u	u	u
Flycatchers				
_____ Olive-sided Flycatcher	o		o	
_____ Eastern Wood-Pewee*	c	c	c	
_____ Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	r		r	
_____ Acadian Flycatcher*	c	c	c	
_____ Alder Flycatcher	r		r	

		<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
_____	Willow Flycatcher*	o	o	o	
_____	Least Flycatcher	r		r	
_____	Eastern Phoebe*	u	u	u	o
_____	Great Crested Flycatcher*	c	c	c	
_____	Eastern Kingbird*	c	c	c	
Shrike					
_____	Loggerhead Shrike*	u	o	u	u
Vireos					
_____	White-eyed Vireo*	c	c	c	
_____	Blue-headed Vireo	u		u	x
_____	Yellow-throated Vireo*	u	u	u	
_____	Philadelphia Vireo	o		o	
_____	Warbling Vireo*	u	u	u	
_____	Red-eyed Vireo*	c	c	c	
Jays and Crows					
_____	Blue Jay*	c	c	c	c
_____	American Crow*	c	c	c	c
Larks					
_____	Horned Lark*	u	u	u	u
Swallows					
_____	Purple Martin	c	c	u	
_____	Tree Swallow*	c	c	c	x
_____	Northern Rough-winged Swallow*	c	c	c	
_____	Bank Swallow	o	r	o	
_____	Cliff Swallow*	c	c	c	
_____	Barn Swallow*	c	c	c	
Chickadees and Titmice					
_____	Carolina Chickadee*	c	c	c	c
_____	Tufted Titmouse*	c	c	c	c
Nuthatches					
_____	Red-breasted Nuthatch	o		o	o
_____	White-breasted Nuthatch*	u	c	u	u
Creepers					
_____	Brown Creeper	u		u	u
Wrens					
_____	Carolina Wren*	c	c	c	c
_____	Bewick's Wren	r	r	r	r
_____	House Wren	o	r	o	r
_____	Winter Wren	u		u	u
_____	Sedge Wren	u	r	u	r
_____	Marsh Wren	o		o	r

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
Kinglets and Gnatcatchers				
_____ Golden-crowned Kinglet	u		u	u
_____ Ruby-crowned Kinglet	u		u	u
_____ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher*	c	c	c	
Thrushes				
_____ Eastern Bluebird*	c	c	c	c
_____ Veery	o		o	
_____ Gray-cheeked Thrush	u		u	
_____ Swainson's Thrush	c		c	
_____ Hermit Thrush	o		u	u
_____ Wood Thrush*	c	c	c	
_____ American Robin*	c	c	c	c
Mimic Thrashers				
_____ Gray Catbird*	u	u	u	
_____ Northern Mockingbird*	c	c	c	c
_____ Brown Thrasher*	c	c	c	u
Starlings				
_____ European Starling*	c	c	c	a
Pipits				
_____ American Pipit	u		u	o
Waxwings				
_____ Cedar Waxwing	u	r	u	u
Warblers				
_____ Blue-winged Warbler	o	r	o	
_____ Golden-winged Warbler	o		o	
_____ Tennessee Warbler	c		c	
_____ Orange-crowned Warbler	r		r	r
_____ Nashville Warbler	u		u	
_____ Northern Parula*	u	u	u	
_____ Yellow Warbler*	u	o	u	
_____ Chestnut-sided Warbler	u		u	
_____ Magnolia Warbler	u		u	
_____ Cape May Warbler	u		u	
_____ Black-throated Blue Warbler	r		r	
_____ Yellow-rumped Warbler	c		c	u
_____ Black-throated Green Warbler	c		c	
_____ Blackburnian Warbler	u		u	
_____ Yellow-throated Warbler*	u	u	u	
_____ Pine Warbler*	u	u	u	u
_____ Prairie Warbler*	u	u	u	
_____ Palm Warbler	u		u	
_____ Bay-breasted Warbler	u		u	
_____ Blackpoll Warbler	c		r	
_____ Cerulean Warbler	u	x	o	
_____ Black-and-white Warbler*	u	o	u	
_____ American Redstart*	u	o	u	

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
_____ Prothonotary Warbler*	c	c	c	
_____ Worm-eating Warbler*	u	u	u	
_____ Swainson's Warbler	r	r	r	
_____ Ovenbird*	u	u	u	
_____ Northern Waterthrush	u		u	
_____ Louisiana Waterthrush*	u	u	u	
_____ Kentucky Warbler*	u	u	u	
_____ Common Yellowthroat*	c	c	c	x
_____ Hooded Warbler*	u	o	u	
_____ Wilson's Warbler	o		o	
_____ Canada Warbler	o		o	
_____ Yellow-breasted Chat*	c	c	c	
Tanagers				
_____ Summer Tanager*	c	c	c	
_____ Scarlet Tanager*	c	c	c	
Towhees, Sparrows and Longspurs				
_____ Eastern Towhee*	c	c	c	c
_____ American Tree Sparrow	r		r	r
_____ Chipping Sparrow*	u	u	u	r
_____ Field Sparrow*	c	c	c	c
_____ Vesper Sparrow	u		u	r
_____ Lark Sparrow	r	r		
_____ Savannah Sparrow	c		c	c
_____ Grasshopper Sparrow	o	r	o	
_____ Le Conte's Sparrow	o		o	u
_____ Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow			r	
_____ Fox Sparrow	u		u	u
_____ Song Sparrow	c	r	c	c
_____ Lincoln's Sparrow	o		o	r
_____ Swamp Sparrow	c		c	c
_____ White-throated Sparrow	c		c	c
_____ White-crowned Sparrow	u		u	u
_____ Dark-eyed Junco	c		c	c
_____ Lapland Longspur			r	r
Cardinals, Grosbeaks and Allies				
_____ Northern Cardinal*	c	c	c	c
_____ Rose-breasted Grosbeak	u		u	
_____ Blue Grosbeak*	u	u	u	
_____ Indigo Bunting*	c	c	c	
_____ Dickcissel*	u	u	u	
Blackbirds and Allies				
_____ Bobolink	u		o	
_____ Red-winged Blackbird*	c	c	a	a
_____ Eastern Meadowlark*	u	u	u	u
_____ Rusty Blackbird	u		u	u
_____ Brewer's Blackbird	r		r	r
_____ Common Grackle*	c	c	c	c
_____ Brown-headed Cowbird*	c	c	c	c

	<i>SP</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>W</i>
_____ Orchard Oriole*	c	c	u	
_____ Northern Oriole*	u	o	o	

Old World Finches

_____ Purple Finch	u		u	u
_____ House Finch*	c	u	u	c
_____ Pine Siskin	o		o	o
_____ American Goldfinch*	c	c	c	c
_____ Evening Grosbeak	o		r	o

Weaver Finches

_____ House Sparrow*	c	c	c	c
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Accidental Birds:

These species have been recorded on the refuge only once or twice or the records of occurrence are very old:

Western Grebe	Pomarine Jaeger
Anhinga	Parasitic Jaeger
Roseate Spoonbill	Long-tailed Jaeger
Fulvous Whistling-Duck	Little Gull
Barnacle Goose	Iceland Gull
Brant	Glaucous Gull
Eurasian Wigeon	Common Ground-Dove
Cinnamon Teal	Spotted Towhee
Northern Goshawk	Harris's Sparrow
Swainson's Hawk	McCown's Longspur
Yellow-headed Blackbird	

Ethics for Birdwatching:

Take care not to disturb nesting birds, exposing eggs and young to extreme temperatures and predation. Disturb wintering wildlife as little as possible, particularly during critical feeding and resting periods. They need all of their energy reserves to withstand the stresses of harsh weather and migration.

Certain areas of the refuge are closed from November 1 through March 15 to minimize bird disturbance. Please observe all refuge signs.

Birdwatchers visiting the Refuge are asked to look for the following species that might occur in the area but have yet to be documented on the refuge. If positive observations are made, please notify us at the Refuge Headquarters.

Glossy Ibis	Mississippi Kite
Purple Gallinule	Whimbrel
Eurasian Collared-Dove	Northern Saw-wet Owl
Fish Crow	Connecticut Warbler
Mourning Warbler	Bachman's Sparrow
Henslow's Sparrow	

**Tennessee
National Wildlife Refuge
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**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD**

March 2001



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731/642 2091